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CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~1~~3, wherein the upper end of the anchor member and the engaging member are tubular.

3. (Previously Presented) An offshore system for petroleum production, comprising:

a buoyant hull;

a tendon assembly cooperatively engaged with the hull;

a counterweight at a lower end of the tendon assembly to provide tension to the tendon assembly,

an anchor member embedded in a sea floor and having an upper end protruding above the sea floor;

an engaging member at the lower end of the tendon assembly that telescopingly engages the upper end of the anchor member to restrict lateral movement of the hull and accommodate heave of the hull; and

wherein the upper end of the anchor member and the engaging member define a chamber that varies in volume as the tendon assembly moves up and down due to heave of the hull, the chamber having a port to draw in and expel sea water to dampen the up and down motion of the tendon assembly.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 3, further comprising a check valve in the port that provides a greater flow area for the egress of sea water during downward movement of the